



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Masatoshi Homan et al.

Examiner: Philip Robert Smith

Serial No.: 10/790,327

Art Unit: 3739

Filed: March 1, 2004

Docket: 17505

For: ENDOSCOPE IMAGE PICK-UP
APPARATUS

Dated: October 19, 2006

Confirm. No.: 2711

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. United States Patent No. 5,387,928, issued to Nishimura, dated February 7, 1995;

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 19, 2006.

Dated: October 19, 2006



Thomas Spinelli

2. United States Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0198439 A1, to Mizuno, dated December 26, 2002; and
3. United States Patent No. 6,428,469 B1, issued to Iddan et al., dated August 6, 2002.

The references were cited in an International Search Report dated August 28, 2006. Applicants are submitting a copy of the Search Report. In accordance with the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)(2)(i) in effect as of June 30, 2003, applicants are not required to submit copies of the above-cited U.S. Patent references. Please note the other reference cited in the Search Report, namely, Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2003-37768, dated February 7, 2003, was previously cited in Applicants' Information Disclosure Statement dated July 7, 2004. The relevance of the above-identified references has been described in the Search Report.

Further, the undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas Spinelli
Registration No. 39,533

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)
17505

Application Number
10/790,327

Applicant(s)

Masatoshi Homan et al.

Filing Date

March 1, 2004

Group Art Unit

3739

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER INITIAL | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|----------------------|-----|--------------------|------------|--------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
| | | 5,387,928 | 2/7/1995 | Nishimura | | | |
| | | 2002/0198439 A1 | 12/26/2002 | Mizuno | | | |
| | | 6,428,469 B1 | 8/6/2002 | Iddan et al. | | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
|--|-----|--------------------|------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | | YES | NO |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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EXAMINER

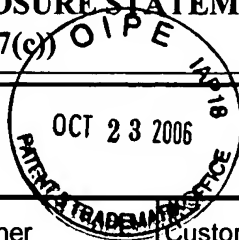
DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

Docket No.
17505

In Re Application Of: **Masatoshi Homan et al.**



| Application No. | Filing Date | Examiner | Customer No. | Group Art Unit | Confirmation No. |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------|------------------|
| 10/790,327 | March 1, 2004 | Philip Robert Smith | 23389 | 3739 | 2711 |

Title: **ENDOSCOPE IMAGE PICK-UP APPARATUS**

Address to:
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

37 CFR 1.97(b)

1. ☒ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d); within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.

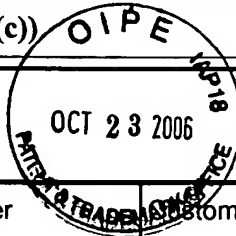
37 CFR 1.97(c)

2. ☐ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b), provided that the Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of:
- ☐ the statement specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e);
- OR**
- ☐ the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

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| 10/790,327 | March 1, 2004 | Philip Robert Smith | 23389 | 3739 | 2711 |

Title: **ENDOSCOPE IMAGE PICK-UP APPARATUS**

Payment of Fee

(Only complete if Applicant elects to pay the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p))

- ☐ A check in the amount of _____ is attached.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 19-1013/SSMP as described below.
- ☐ Charge the amount of _____
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WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

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October 19, 2006

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Thomas Spinelli

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*This certificate may only be used if paying by deposit account.


Signature

Dated: **October 19, 2006**

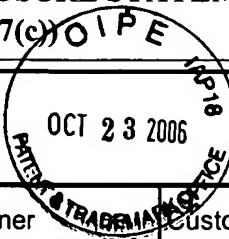
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TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))**

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Group Art Unit

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March 1, 2004

Philip Robert Smith

23389

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